

were disclosed Steps were taken to deal with the most urgent matters, and a great deal more was in train for action when the Labour Government left office Among other administrative actions, the effective part of an Ordinance to bring about the abolition of Mm Tsai in Hong-Kong, which had been kept suspended by previous Governments, was put into operation in spite of loud local governmental protests Further, the new Constitution for Ceylon, based on the recommendations of the Donoughmore Commission (of which Dr Drummond Shiels was a member) was drawn up and established

To a country with most of India's problems on a smaller scale, it gives adult suffrage for the first time in any Eastern country It abolishes communal representation entirely, and places the responsibility for the welfare of minorities on the good sense and tolerance of the general community, with, in the background, the right of inter-vention on their behalf by the Governor It has executive Committees of members of the Legislature attached to the Departments of Government, and the State Council has both legislative and administrative functions The new Constitution was established at a time of economic depression, which did not give it a good start, and there has been some friction over the use of the Governor's powers to protect the interests of British Civil Servants It is certain, however, that, whatever changes there may be, the fundamental features of the Constitution will not be altered They mark a notable advance in the

application of democracy in the East, and were not without effect on the recommendations of Lord Lothian's Advisory Committee on the proposed franchise for India

In these various directions, substantial good was accomplished, under his regime not showy, but solid. The general public however, and even many members of his own party, were hardly aware of all this. The picture of Colonial